

social complexity and possible state origins are barely discussed. Burger's treatment of the Early Horizon summarizes critical data and puts Chavin and related phenomena into a well-conceived, well-documented interpretive framework. Better known cultures and regions of the Early Intermediate Period (Conklin and Moseley) and the Late Intermediate Period (Parsons and Hastings) are thoroughly and evenly summarized. Isbell offers interesting interpretations of events of the Middle Horizon, but points out that the data are still rather poor. The two chapters treating the Late Horizon (Morris, Netherly) do not summarize Inca culture, but rather are position papers on the potential contributions of archeology and ethnohistory, respectively, to the study of Inca society. Netherly chastises archeologists for their limited and generally inept use of ethnohistoric documents. Raymond's discussion of the tropical forest points out how very important this area is to fully understanding Peruvian prehistory. Finally, the contributions are summarized by Keatinge, who offers some sharp criticisms of prior research, and some disagreements with current interpretations.

There is a great need for an up-to-date general textbook covering Peruvian prehistory, but on its own this volume will not be appropriate as an undergraduate text. A good deal of background knowledge is required in order to fully understand the issues discussed in the volume. It is, however, the most current, comprehensive review of Peruvian prehistory by a group of active scholars in several decades. As such, it is a major contribution to Andean archeology, of use to all specialists in the field.

Pottery Analysis: A Sourcebook. *Prudence M. Rice.* Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 1987. 560 pp. \$45.00 (cloth).

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Despite the importance of pottery analysis to archeologists, comprehensive treatments of the subject have been few and far between. Anna Shepard's *Ceramics for the Archaeologist* (Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1956) stood for three decades as the only such work in English. But pottery studies saw many advances after Shepard's book was written, and, as time passed, the need for a state-of-the-art synthesis grew ever more acute. Happily, Rice has now satisfied this need with a wonderful book that, if anything, is even more comprehensive than Shepard's original.

The book contains five parts. Part 1 defines basic terms and summarizes the history of pottery manufacture in worldwide perspective. Part 2 describes the raw materials of pottery making and the many complex ways these materials interact when subjected to firing. Part 3 deals with diverse subjects related to pottery manufacture, production, decoration, distribution, use, discard, and classification (both ethnographic and archeological). Part 4 reviews the burgeoning literature on ceramic characterization, including both provenance and physical properties studies. Finally, part 5 considers briefly the fate of traditional potters in the modern world, with special emphasis on patterns of continuity and change.

In a volume covering so many topics, it is perfectly understandable that not all could be treated in equal depth. The most space is given to technological aspects of pottery production and analysis, somewhat less to the economic, social, and stylistic aspects. Although no major topic is entirely left out, I was a bit surprised to see only two pages devoted to the issue of ceramic chronology (i.e., relative dating), for surely this is the most common kind of analysis to which archeologists subject their sherds.

The book is clearly written and well illustrated. I found only one editorial lapse worth mentioning: a number of mathematical equations are printed without proper attention to the correct placement of parentheses and the conventional order of arithmetic operations. At best, this oversight leads to some ambiguity; at worst, it yields formulas that are just plain wrong. For example, the equation on page 224 for calculating the radius of vessel curvature should read $(y^2 + x^2)/2x$. Similarly afflicted are some equations for calculating vessel volumes shown in Table 7.1, viz., the formulas for cone and frustrum should have the divisor "3" at the end of the sequence of factors rather than in the middle. And the formula for the ratio of surface areas mentioned on page 292 should be $(r_1/r_2)^2$, with the example written as $(9/2)^2 = 20$. In view of such problems, a reader would be well advised to double-check any formula found in this book before using it.

If this sounds like nitpicking, you're right. Even the most critical reviewer can do little else with a book of such erudition and scope. Rice has produced a magnificent synthesis that belongs on every archeologist's shelf. It is also an excellent textbook for students. I would not be surprised if, 30 years from now, it still holds its ground as the principal reference work on pottery.